

**Security Council**

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**Letter dated 1 February 2008 from the Secretary-General
addressed to the President of the Security Council**

I have the honour to write to you regarding the continuation of the efforts of my Special Envoy for Darfur, Jan Eliasson.

As you will recall, my Special Envoy for Darfur and the African Union Special Envoy, Salim Ahmed Salim, had anticipated that the Darfur political negotiations, which they launched in Sirte, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, on 27 October 2007, would have been concluded by January 2008. However, the negotiations did not evolve as expected, and it is now clear that additional efforts will be required. In this context, the Special Envoys are now intensifying their consultations with all relevant actors in anticipation of the parties engaging in substantive negotiations in early 2008.

In order to allow for the continuation of the mediation role of my Special Envoy, I have extended his appointment to 30 June 2008 so that he can continue his functions in accordance with paragraph 18 of Security Council resolution 1769 (2007).

To take forward his work, my Special Envoy will continue to be supported by the African Union-United Nations Hybrid Operation in Darfur (UNAMID), as stipulated by the Security Council in its resolution 1769 (2007), wherein the Council decided that UNAMID would support the mediation efforts of the Special Envoys of the African Union and the United Nations.

I should be grateful if you would bring the present letter to the attention of the members of the Security Council and inform them of the continuing mandate of my Special Envoy.

(Signed) **Ban Ki-moon**

